

the prevention of underage drinking through environmental strategies.

Congratulations to the AICDAC on this recognition.

LOS ANGELES URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE AID TÜRKIYE EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE

(Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 132 to respond to the devastating earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria.

Three weeks ago, the world watched in horror as one of the deadliest earthquakes of the century hit southern Türkiye and northern Syria, causing destruction of epic proportions. The damage affected 20 million people in Türkiye and 8 million in Syria.

Amidst the tragedy, I recognize the heroism and courage of the nearly 240,000 rescue and aid workers who have responded to this disaster. I am deeply proud that an urban search and rescue team from my district in Los Angeles was deployed to Türkiye to assist in USAID's relief efforts just 18 hours after the earthquake first hit. Eighty personnel from the L.A. County Fire Department and eight members of the L.A. Sheriff's Department led the search for survivors and assessed over 6,000 buildings to determine their safety for residents.

As is always the case when disaster strikes, those who suffer most are the vulnerable and marginalized among us: civilians in rebel-led Syria who have endured the horror of Russian airstrikes and Assad's weaponization of aid; Syrian refugees seeking safety in Türkiye; and pregnant women, children, the elderly, and disabled people.

QUESTIONING SAFETY OF COVID-19 VACCINES

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, many Americans have raised concerns over the safety and effectiveness of the COVID-19 vaccines.

We were told these shots were safe and effective. Now, we have information that raises serious doubts.

One pharmaceutical company asked that its research and safety data be hidden from the public for 75 years. What is to hide if these shots are safe and effective?

The Twitter files have shown that pharma companies and government agencies encouraged that social media giant to censor that information that raised doubts over the shots.

The vaccine information report that lists the potential side effects of the shot has been censored and left blank. This is what comes with the vials—censored, intentionally left blank. Amazing.

One company's representative even admitted they had no idea if their injections even worked before introducing them to the market. Several of these shots have already been pulled from the market, and others have had warning labels attached for young children and pregnant women, who were pushed into taking these injections.

Americans deserve the truth. Given the number of deaths from COVID-19 among vaccinated people, it is very questionable and worth asking these questions. Are they effective? The next question is, are they even safe?

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CELEBRATING JOE JUAREZ'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

(Mr. CORREA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor the 100th birthday of my constituent, World War II veteran, Joe Juarez, a member of the Greatest Generation.

Joe was born in Fullerton, California. While growing up, his favorite sport was baseball.

In 1942, Joe and his high school baseball team were on their way to the CIF championship game, but they never made it because Joe and his teammates were drafted and served in World War II.

As a private first class, Joe fought in the Pacific and was awarded the Asia-Pacific Campaign Medal and a World War II Victory Medal. Joe spent 2½ years in the Pacific before returning home. Several of his teammates, including one of his brothers, never made it back.

Joe and his wife, Novel, were married for 68 years and raised three children.

Throughout his life, Joe has never forgotten his Band of Brothers who gave the ultimate sacrifice for this great country.

Happy birthday, Joe. Happy birthday. You are a true American hero.

ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY ATTACK ON UKRAINE

(Ms. SHERRILL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SHERRILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the strength of the Ukrainian people after enduring 1 year of merciless attacks by Russian forces.

The following is from a record entry on Friday that marked the 1-year anniversary:

When Putin ordered his tanks and forces into regions like Mariupol and Kharkiv, he thought Ukraine would fall in a matter of days. Instead of an easy victory, Putin's war of aggression has been a dismal failure.

The people of Ukraine refused to be forced into an authoritarian state where any opposition is met with jail, torture, or murder. They are prepared

to pay the ultimate price for their freedom.

NATO is now more unified than ever in providing military, economic, and humanitarian assistance to support Ukraine's right to sovereignty.

Since the invasion, the United States has provided unprecedented support and coordination, which has helped the Ukrainian military make exponential gains.

Picatinny Arsenal in my congressional district has been integral to Ukraine's military success. They have developed the primary cannon being used by the Ukrainian army and continue to be responsible for every piece of ammunition being sent by the United States to Ukraine. I remain committed to protecting the fundamental values of peace, prosperity, and stability across the globe and in Ukraine.

REMEMBERING ARIELLE DIAMOND ANDERSON, BRIAN FRASER, AND ALEXANDRIA VERNER

(Mr. THANEDAR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THANEDAR. Mr. Speaker, today I stand before this body to remind Congress of the following names:

Arielle Diamond Anderson, Brian Fraser, Alexandria Verner.

The lives of these three students were brutally taken from us this month on the campus of Michigan State University. Arielle Anderson and Brian Fraser were students at schools in my district.

Although this tragedy has personal significance for me today, it is a sad truth that until our country recognizes the sickness of gun violence, we will continue to have tragedies like this. These incidents are all too common in this country. We as a Congress must ensure and demand that these atrocities never happen again.

It is past due that we pass sensible gun laws that expand safe storage regulations, reform red flag laws, and improve access to mental health care.

Mr. Speaker, we can't keep living like this. We must act now.

ECSU AND NCWU CHAMPIONSHIP WINS

(Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate Elizabeth City State University women's basketball team and North Carolina Wesleyan University men's basketball team for their remarkable championship wins this past weekend.

For Elizabeth City State University, this impressive achievement is the first CIAA championship win in the institution's 132-year history. The Lady Vikings showed everyone in the arena that teamwork brings home triumph.

In their championship game, North Carolina Wesleyan University defeated second seed William Peace to claim the program's fifth USA South title.

On behalf of North Carolina's First Congressional District, I applaud Elizabeth City State University coach, Tynesha Lewis, and North Carolina Wesleyan University coach, John Thompson, for building their respective programs.

I thank the student athletes for their determination and for showing the entire country the best of eastern North Carolina.

Elizabeth City State University:

Student Athletes: Jessica Adams, Dy'Jhanik Armfield, Isa Banks, NyAsia Blango, Asaya Bulgin, Asia Cochran, Sierra Davenport, Makayla Everette, Jamia Guilford, Maryam Hashim, Zyaire Hayes, Alanis Hill, Jasmine Holmes, Akylia King, Ceanna Kinney, Naomi Lockamy, Jada Nowlin, Kamille Pickens, Sireann Pitts, and Elizabeth Sherrill

Coaches: Tynesha Lewis and Ron Woodard

North Carolina Wesleyan University:

Student Athletes: DeeJay Cox, Jalen Matlocks, Wy'Kise Allen, Brayden Dixon, Omari Bolden, Marquis Eskew, Khalid Chavis-Hinds Jr., RJ Bailey, Justin Burden, Jeremy Aldrich, Austin Manley, Isaiah Lewis, Tyler Spence, James Jones, Sal-Bey Young, Kyron Kelly, John Jackson, Jackson Thompson

Coaches: John Thompson, Cornelius Snow, and Donte Samuels

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE CALVIN D. HAWKINS

(Mr. MRVAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I rise today to celebrate Black History Month and recognize the Honorable Calvin D. Hawkins, who is a Lake County Superior Court judge in northwest Indiana and a champion for equality and civil rights.

While still in his teens, Judge Hawkins participated in the historic March on Washington in 1963, and then embarked on his distinguished legal career where he has faithfully served with purpose, integrity, and respect.

Outside of the courts, he also has proven himself to be a tireless advocate for the youth of northwest Indiana, launching a stay-in-school initiative, and has also served as president of the board of directors for Indiana Legal Services.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating Black History Month and recognizing the dedication of Judge Hawkins and all individuals who have fought and continue to fight for civil rights and justice.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH TRIBUTES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members

have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, every February, Black History Month affords us the opportunity to learn about, celebrate, and honor Black leaders and to shine a light on the often-neglected contributions of African Americans in every area of our history.

Today, I rise to pay tribute to 10 remarkable individuals from Michigan's Seventh Congressional District—some of them famous names, others with buried histories that deserve to be shared.

Their stories span the geographical breadth of the district as well as the depths of our Nation's history: from the Civil War heroes of escaped slaves to modern singers and scholars.

All of them should be celebrated, and all of them called Michigan home.

Before I share their stories, though, I must also share the story of our great State.

While many know Michigan for the Motor City or for Motown, what you might not know is the critical role our State played in the Underground Railroad.

There are endless accounts of our State's importance to the secret network that aided thousands of people on their journey to freedom. Conductors hid freedom seekers in their homes and barns during the day. At night, freedom seekers would go to a depot in the next town.

For many, Detroit, code name "Midnight," was the last stop before making their way to a free life in Canada, but a number stayed in Michigan and started their new lives.

I am so proud of the role our State played in securing freedom, and it is my honor to highlight these stories of Black Michiganders who have been shaping our State since day one.

TRIBUTE TO ABRAHAM LOSFORD

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Abraham Losford, the first Black resident of Howell, Michigan; a brave man who escaped slavery and used the trade he learned while captive to build a life of freedom for his family and for generations to come.

It was 1849 when Abraham Losford fled north with nothing but his clippers from Kentucky where he had been enslaved and served as a plantation barber. He was captured, escaped again, and after emancipation, returned to free his children, Benjamin and Sally.

The plan was to travel to Lansing, Michigan, via the Old Plank Road and open a barbershop, but when Losford stopped in Howell to change stagecoaches, he was convinced to stay in the small town.

The people of Howell promised to keep him safe if he would stay and open a barbershop, which they sorely

needed. It was a deal both sides would forever uphold.

Losford and his barber business thrived in Howell and he became a successful, respected businessman in the predominantly White community—no small feat for a former slave in the years following the end of the Civil War.

Newspaper ads from the time boast of his salon offering, "Shaving, Shampooing, and Hairdressing" for both men and women, and it was noted in the local press that when Losford fell ill, a band of 60 kids and adults joined together to bring him gifts and money in a show of support and affection for their beloved town barber.

Abraham passed the trade to his son, who went on to open a barbershop of his own in the town of Edmore, Michigan. Today, Ben's story, and that of his father, are immortalized in the children's book "Benjamin Losford and His Handy Dandy Clippers."

It is the story of how skill equals freedom and a potent reminder that we must all make the most of the tools we have been fortunate enough to receive.

Abraham Losford died in 1897 and was buried in Lakeview Cemetery in downtown Howell, Michigan. His obituary states that, "His presence, as well as his open, manly character, was a living reminder of the sin of slavery. Many winters will come and go before the name of Old Uncle Abe is forgotten in this community."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that his name and his accomplishments live forever in our hearts and minds as well as here in the permanent Record of the people's House.

TRIBUTE TO ALEXANDER JOHNSON

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to pay tribute to a man who should have been hailed as a hero, but for too long his story was lost in history.

Alexander Johnson was a Black Civil War veteran who lived and worked in Owosso, Michigan, in the late 1800s. When a group of White residents chased most Black folks out of town, Johnson and two others refused to go.

Born in Tennessee in 1833, Johnson fled slavery and made his way to Michigan before enlisting in a Union regiment of African Americans in Kalamazoo, Michigan, to fight in the Civil War, then moving to Canada at the war's end, and later returning to Michigan to settle in Owosso with his wife.

No one knows for sure why he chose Owosso. Some historians believe Johnson's wife may have had family nearby. Others surmise he might have had connections to a home in Owosso rumored to be a part of the Underground Railroad, and still others say that at the time, the growing community was a place where people of all races moved to explore economic opportunity.

Whatever the reason, Owosso is where Alexander Johnson chose to put down his roots, opening up a downtown barbershop and was, by all accounts, a well-liked businessman and respected member of the community.